

# MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2020  
ISSUE 1

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Living Planet Report shows that the average size of wildlife populations has plummeted by 68% since 1970 - that's two thirds in less than half a century.



The African CSOs Biodiversity Alliance (ACBA) was established in February, to strengthen the African civil society voice in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. ACBA is an alliance of about 40 like-minded CSOs coming from the 5 subregions of Africa. For coordination purposes, the group comprises 3 task forces, namely secretariat, policy and communications.

### Policy Task Force

The policy task force is responsible for engaging with strategic partners in order to influence the text of the Post 2020 GBF and in the past 6 months, it has achieved the following milestones: a) established the priority message of the alliance towards the Post2020, which is Sustainable Use, b) engaged African Union Commission and United Nations General Assembly Biodiversity Summit – Presidency speech, c) engaged partners such as the African Group of Negotiators, Africa Development Bank and Chinese CSOs and d) led the development of policy briefs and case studies on sustainable use.

### Communications Task Force

The communications task force is responsible for outreach and public awareness. In the last 6 months, it has hosted the #OurNatureOurHealth Campaign which was running in the 3 African Union Languages and aimed at educating Africans about zoonosis through a series of infographics and webinars. Campaign materials can be found on Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/acsosba/>, Twitter <https://twitter.com/CsosAfrican?s=08> and Trello- <https://trello.com/b/7P7XcgmT/african-csos-biodiversity-alliance-ournatureourhealth-toolkit>

### Secretariat Task Force

The secretariat of the alliance is currently under the leadership of African Wildlife Foundation and this task force handles the administrative processes of the alliance.

# CSO OF THE MONTH

## Obudu Conservation Centre

Obudu Conservation Centre (OCC), founded in 2002, is an independent African-based environmental organisation headquartered in Obudu Plateau, Cross River State, Nigeria, with offices in Lagos and Calabar. While working with the local communities, OCC seeks to protect, restore and increase awareness of the wildlife and wildlands in Cross River National Park, which runs into Cameroon's Takamanda National Park, a biodiversity hotspot. They have launched various community-led initiatives to systematically empower local communities in the region and restore the natural landscape.



Nella Duke  
C.E.O  
Obudu Conservation Centre

Once established, OCC built an education centre in Obudu Mountains, where they offer children and students hands-on nature experiences to develop their knowledge of the natural world.

To learn more about their work or to keep in touch, follow the link below:

link <https://www.obuduconservationc.org/>



# COMMUNITY OF THE MONTH



## Kuruwitu Conservation & Welfare Association (KCWA)

This month we feature an inspiring community from Kenya that is living in harmony with nature. Kuruwitu Conservation & Welfare Association (KCWA) was set up in 2003 by members of the community who were concerned about the degradation of their seas. Climate change and uncontrolled fish and coral collection needed to be addressed before the marine ecosystem was damaged beyond repair.

Elders who could remember how healthy and productive the sea had been decades ago told their story and KCWA put together a management plan for sustainable fisheries alongside other alternative income generating enterprises. In 2005 they took the unprecedented step of setting aside a 30 hectare Marine Protected Area (MPA). This was the first coral based Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) in Kenya. 12 years on, the area has made a remarkable recovery. To read more about KCWA here is the link <https://kuruwitukenya.org/about-us/>



# POLICY UPDATES

## INTERESTING NEWS FROM THE REGION AND BEYOND

- The CBD released an updated 0 draft of the post 2020 biodiversity framework following the reworded targets and updated language, based on seven months of extensive consultations and input from around the world. (<https://www.cbd.int/article/zero-draft-update-august-2020>)
- Global biodiversity outlook 5 <https://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo5/publication/gbo-5-en.pdf>
- Ugandan lawmakers reject plan for Murchison Falls hydropower dam (<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2020/sep/25/ugandan-government-rejects-plan-for-murchison-falls-hydropower-dam>)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### GREAT APES CAMPAIGN

Starting from the 16th of  
October 2020



### SECURING THE FUTURE FOR GREAT APES

- **Webinar 1:** Great Ape Tourism
- **Date:** 16 October 2020, 15:00 EAT
- **Webinar 2:** Tour operators and Governments
- **Date:** 23 October 2020, 15:00 EAT

## OUR CONTACTS

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